THE WIZARD.

BY H. RIDER HAGGARD, sther of "She," "Allan Quartermain," "King Bolo mon's Mines," &c.

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THE PRAST OF THE PIRST PRUITS.

CHAPTER V.

On the third morning from this night wherethe strange events have been described, an wagon might have been seen out panned on the hither side of those ranges of hills that rere visible from the river. These mountains. although not high, were very steep, formed the outer barrier and defence of the kingdom of the Amasuka. Within 500 yards where the wagon stood, however, a sheergorge, fire-riven and water-hewn, pierced the range, and Llooking on it, Owen knew it for the gorge of his dream. Night and day the mouth of it was guarded by a company of armed soldiers, whose huts were built high on outlook places in the mountains, whence heir keer eyes could scan the vast expanses A full day before it reached them ing across the vehit, and swift runners had re-Back came the word of the King that the white man with the wagon and his servent were to be led on toward the Great Place speed as would bring him there in time for him to behold the last ceremony of the feast of first fruits; but, for the present, that the wagon itself and the oxen were to be mouth of the garge, in charge of a

guard, who would be answerable for them. Now, on this morning the Captain of the guard and his orderlies advanced to the wagon and stood in front of it. They were splendid men, armed with great spears and shields, and adorned with feather head dresses and all the wild finery of their regiment. Owen descended from the wagon and came to meet them, and so for a few moments they remained face to face, in silence. A strange contrast they presented as they stood there; the bareheaded white man, frail, delicate, spiritual of countenance, and the warriors, great, grave, powerful, a very embediment of the essence of untamed humanity, an incarnate presentation of the spirit of savage warfare. "How are you named, white man?" asked

Chief, I am named Messenger."

"The peace of the King be with you, Mes-senger," said the Captain, lifting his spear. "The peace of God be with you, Chief," answered Owen, holding up his hands in blessing. 'Who is God?" asked the Captain. "Chief, He is the King I serve, and His

word is between my lips."
"Then pass on, Messenger of God, and de-liver the word of God your King, into the ears of my King, at his Great Place yonder, " rass on, riding the heast you have prought with you, for the way is rough; but your wagon, your exen, and your servants, save this man only who is of the Children of Fire, must stay here in my keeping. Fear not, Messenger, I "I do not fear, Chief. There is honor in

Some hours later Owen, mounted on his mule, was riding through the gorge, a guard in front of and behind him, and with them carriers who had been sent to bear his bageage. At his side walked his disciple, John, and his

your eyes."

face was sad. Thy are you still afraid?" asked Owen. "Ah, father, because this is a place of fear Here in this valley men are led to die; presently you will see."

"I have seen." answered Owen. "There where we shall helt is a mount, and on that mount stands a tree; it is called the tree of death, and it stretches a thousand hands to heaven, praying for mercy that does not come, and from its boughs there hangs fruit, a fruit of dead men-yes, twenty of them hang there

"How know you these things, my father?" asked the man, amazed, "seeing that I have never spoken to you of them?" he answered, "God has spoken to me. My God and your God."

Another hour passed, and they were restthe by the spring of water, near to the shadow, of the dreadful tree, for in that gorge the sun burned flercely. John counted the bodies that swung upon it, and again looked fearfully at Owen, for there were twenty of them. "I desire to go up to that tree," Owen said to

"As you will, Messenger," answered their leader; "I have no order to prevent you from so doing. Still," he added, with a solemn smile. and, because I like you well, Messenger, I pray

it may never be my duty to lead you there of the King's will " Then Owen went up to the tree, and John with him, only John would not pass beneath the shadow of its branches, but stood by, wondering, while his master bound a handkerchief

about his mouth. How did he know that the breath of the tree

Was poisonous? John wondered.

Owen walked to the bole of the tree, and, breaking off some of the finger-like leaves of

their milky juice into a little bottle that he had made ready. Then he returned quickly, for the sights and odors of the place were not Outside the circle of the branches he halted

and removed the handkerehief from his mouth. "Be of good cheer." he said to John, "and if it should chance that I am called away before my words come true, yet remember my words I tell you that this Tree of Death shall become ple. Look! there above you is the sign and

John lifted his eyes, following the line of Own's outstretched hand, and saw this: High up upon the tree, and standing clear of all the other branches, was one straight dead limb, and from this dead limb two arms projected at right angles, also dead and snapped off short. Had a carpenter fa-blened a cross of wood and set it there, its proportions could not have strange to find this symbol of the Christian hope towering above that place of human terror. and stranger still was the purpose which it

must serve in a day to come.

Owen and John returned to the guard in flence, and presently they set forward on their lourney. At length, pussing beneath a nattral arch of rock, they were out of the Valley of Death, and before them, not 500 pages away, was the fence of the Great Place. The Great Place stood upon a high plateau. In the lap of the surrounding hills, all of which were strongly fortified with schemes, pitfalls, and longh walls of stone. This plateau may have measured atten miles in circumference, and the fener of the town itself was about three talles in carcumference, Within the fence and following its curve, for it was round, stood thousands of dome-snaped huts, carefully set ent in stricts. Within these again was a to a de of timber, inclosing a vast arena callle of the People of Fire in times of del to serve as a review ground for

an limes of peace or festival. At the uniter gate of the kranl there was a While the Respers of the gate despatched by ger with King to announce the advent of the white man, Or this pause Owen took ad-Vaniage to array himself in the surplice and bood which he had brought with him in readior that hour; then he gave the mule to

at de you, Messengerr' asked the leader

maself in my war dress," he said. theo, is your spear. Messenger?" said Owen, presenting to his eyes a foury, most heautifully curved.

ve that you are of the family 6 of the man and fell back.

was opened to them. Once withis it Owen saw a wonderful sight—such a sight as few white men have seen. The ground of the enormous oval before him was not fast; either from natural accident or by design a stoped gently upward, so that the spectator, standing by the gate or at the head of it, before the Hutwe of the King, could take in the whole expanse, and, if his sight were keen enough, could see every individual upon it. On the particular day of Owen's arrival it was crowded with regiments, twelve of them, all dressed in their different uniforms and bearing shelds to match, not one of which was less than 2,500 strong. At this moment the regiments were massed in deep lines, each battallon by itself, on either side of the broad roadway that ran straight up the kraul to where the King, his sone, his advisors, and guards, together with the company of wizards, were placed in front of the royal house. There they stood in absolute silence, like tens of thousands of bronze statutes, and Owen perceived that they were resting or that they were gathered thus to receive him. That the latter was the case soon became evident, for as he appeared, a white spot at the foot of the slope, countless heads turned and myriads of eyes fastened themselves upon him. For an instant he was dismayed; there was something terrifying in this numberless multitude of warriors, and the thought of the task that he had undertaken crushed his spirit. Then he remembered, and shaking off his fear and doubt, alone, save for his disciple John, holding the crucifix aloft, he walked slowly up the wide road toward the place where he guessed that the King must be. His arm was weary ere ever he reached it, but at length he found himself standing before a thick set old man, who was clad in leopard skins and seated upon a stool of polished wood.

"It is the King," whispered John behind him. "Peace be to you," said Owen, breaking the steries.

"It is the King," whispered John behind him. "The wish is good; may it be fulfilled," an-swered the King in a deep

ministit standing before a thick-set old man, who was clad in leopard skins and seated upon a steel of polished wood.

"It is the King," whispered John behind him. "Peace be to you," said Owen, breaking the silence.

"The wish is good; may it be fulfilled," answered the King in a deep-voice, sighing as he said the words, "Yet yours is a strange greeting," he aided, "Whence come you. White Man, how are you named, and what is your mission to me and to my people?"

"King, I come from beyond the sea. I am named Messenger, and my mission is to deliver the saying of God, my King and yours."

At these words a gasp of astonishment went up from those who stood within hearing, expecting as they did to see them rewarded by Instant death. But Umsuka culy said:

"My King and yours?" Bold words, Messenger. Where, then, is this King to whom I. Umsuka, should bow the knee?"

"It is everywhere—in the heavens, on the earth, and below the earth.

"It If is everywhere, then He is here. Show me the likeness of this King, Messenger,"

"Behold it," Owen answered, thrusting forward the crucilia.

Now all the great ones about the King stared at this figure of a dying man crowned with thorns and hanging on a cross, and thon drew up their lips to laugh. But that laugh never handled the mean audden impulse, a mysterious washes of the atchemes of the confernate between themselves in includes and this one white-robed mn in his londliness took something not far removed from the.

"I perceive," he said, "that you are either mad, White Man, or you are a prince of wirards. Mad you do not seem to be, for your eyes are caim, therefore a wizard you must be, Well, stand behind my: by and by I will hear your message and ask of you to show me your powers; but before then there are things which I must do. Are the lads ready? Ho, you, loose the buil!"

At the words a line of soldiers moved from the right, forming liself up in front of the King and has attendants and revealing a number of youths of from lid to 18 years of acquards. However, and there ar

gored."
"A good bull," he said with a smile: "that
of last year killed but five. Well, the lads
fought him bravely. Let the dead be burfed,
the hurt tended, or, if their harms are hopeless, slain, and to the rest give a double ration of beer. Ho, now, fall back, men, and
make a space for the Bees and the Wasps to
fight in."

By this time tac scene was that we regiments, numbering some 5,000 men in all, had come together, and the roar of thunder. They were armed with kerriers only, and not with spears, for the fight was supposed to be a mimic one; but these weapons they used with spears, for the fight was supposed to be a mimic one; but these weapons they used with spears, for the fight was supposed to be a mimic one; but these weapons they used with spears, for the fight was supposed to be a mimic one; but these weapons they used with spears, for the fight was supposed for the were down dead or with shattered skulls and bruised limbs. Fiercely they fought, while the whole army was thed, for their rivalry was keen, and for many months they had known that they were to be pitted one against the other on this clav. Fiercely they fought, while the Captains crited their orders, and the dust rose up in clouds as they swung to and fro. breast thrushing against breast. At length the end came; the Bees began to give, they fell back ever more quickly, till their retreat was a rout, and, leaving many stretched upon the uround, amid the mocking cries of the army, they were driven to the fence, by touching which they obtained peace at the hands of their victors. The king saw, and his somewhat heavy, quiet face grew allve with rage.

"search and see," he said, "if the Captain of the Bees is alive and unburt."

Mussengers went to do his bidding, and presently they returned, bringing with them a man of magnificent appearance and middle age, whose arm had been broken by a blow from a kerry. With his right hand he saiuted, first the King, then Prince Nodwenzo, a kindly mild-eyed man, in whose command he was.

"What have you to sav?" asked the King, in a cell voice of anger. "Know you that you have cost me ten head of the royal cattle?"

"King, I have nothing to say," asked the King, in a cell voice of anger. "Know you that you have cost me ten head of the royal cattle?"

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a cold voice of anger. "Know you that you have cost me ten head of the royal cattle?"

"King. I have nothing to say," answered the Captain calmy, "except that my men are covaries.

"That is certainly so," said the King. "Let all the wounded are one them be carried away; and for you. Captain, who turn my soldiers into cowards, you shall die a dog s death, hanging to-morrow on the tree of doom. As for your regiment. I banish it to the fever country, there to hunt elephants for three years, since it is not fit to fight with men."

"It is well," replied the Captain, "since death is better than shame; only. King, I have done you goed service in the past, I ask that it may be presently, and by the spear."

"So be it," said the King.

"I crave his life, father," said 'he Prince Nodwenge; "he is my friend."

"A Prince should not choose cowards for his friends," replied the King; "let him be killed."

Then Owen, who had been watching and listening, his heart sick with horror, stood forward and said:

"King, in the name of him I serve, I conjure you to spare this man and those hurt, who have done no crime except to be driven back by soldiers stronger than themselves."

"Messenger," answered the King. "I bear with you because you are known. Know that, according to our customs, this orline is the greatest of crimes, for hers we show no movey to the conquered."

"Yet you should do so," said Owen, "seeing that you also must ere long be conquered by who have shown none?"

"I have him be killed." said the King.

"King," cried Owen once mors, "do this deed, and I tell you that be fore the sun is down great evil will overtake you."

"The him has have she way to the sun is down great evil will overtake you."

"The heams was led away; but before he went to found time to thank Owen and Nodwengo, the Prince, and to call down good fortune upon them.

THE DRINKING OF THE CUP.

Now the King's word was done, the anger went out of his eyes, and once more his countenance grew weary. A command was issued, and, with the most perfect order, meving like one man, the regiments changed their array, forming up battation upon battation in face of the king, that they might give him the royal salute so soon as he had drunk the cup of the first fruits.

A herald stood forward and cried:

'Harken, you Sons of First Harken, you Children of Umsuka, Shaker of the Earth! Harken and you a boon to ask of the Ang.'

Men stood forward, and Faching saluted, one by one asked this thing or their. The range array their requests, and as he holded or tarned away, so they were granted or printed.

I the man and fell back.

The

"What is it?" asked his father, eyeing himcuriously.

"A small matter, King." he replied, "A
while ago I named a certain woman Noma,
the ward of Hokosa, the wizard, and she was
sen ed to me to fill the place of my first wife,
the queen that is to be. She passed into the
Hiouse of the Royal Women, and, by your
command. King, it was nixed that I should
marry her according to our customs to morrow
after the feast of the first Iruits is ended. King,
my heart is changed toward the woman; I ne
longer desire to take her to wife, and I pray
that you will order that she now be handed
back to Hokosa, her guardian."

"You blow hot and cold with the same
mouth, Harela," said Umsuka, "and in love
or war I do not like such men. What have
you to say to this demand, Hokosa?"

Now, Jiokosa stepped forward from where he
stood at the head of the company of wizards.
His dress, like that of his companions, was
simple, but in its way striking. On his shoulders he wore a cloak of shining snakeskin;
about his loins was a short kilt of the same material; and round his forehead, arms, and
knees, were failets of snakeskin. At his side
hung his pouch of medicines, and in his hand
he held no spear, but a wand of ivery, whereof
the top was roughly carved so as to resemble
the head of a cobra reared up to strike.

"King," he said, "I have heard the words
of the Prince, and I do not think that this insult should have been put upon the Lady
Noma, my ward, or upon me, her guardian;
still, let it be, for I would not that one should
pass from under the shadow of my house
whither she is not welcome. Without my
loave the Prince named this woman as his
Queen, as he had the right to do; and without
my leave he unnames her lash to go and
without
my leave he unnames her, as he has the right
to do. Were the Prince a common man, according to custom he should pay a fine of cattle, to be held by me in trust for her whom he
discards; but this is a matter that I leave to
you. King."
"You do well, Hokosa," answered Umsnka,
"to leave this to me. Pr "What is it?" asked his father, eyeing him-

discards; but this is a matter that I leave to you, King."

"You do well, Hokosa," answered Umsuka, "to leave this to me. Frince, you would not wish the fine that vou should pay to be that of any common man. With the girl shall be handed over 200 head of cattle. More, I will do justice; unless she herself consenss, she shall not be put away. Let the Lady Noma be summoned."

do justice; unless she herself consents, she shall not be put away. Let the Lady Noma be summoned."

Now the face of Hafela grew sullen, and, watching, Owen saw a swift change pass over that of Hokosa. Evidently he was not certain of the woman. Presently there was a stir, and from the gates of the royal house the Lady Noma appeared, attended by women, and atood before the King. She was a tail and lovely girl, and the sunlight flashed upon her brougance the King. She was a tail and lovely girl, and the sunlight flashed upon her brougance heast and her ornaments of ivory. Her black hair was fastened in a knot upon her neck, her features were fine and small, her gait was delicate and sure as that of an antelope, and her eyes were beautiful and full of pride. There she stood before the King, looking round her like a stag. Seeing her thus, Owen understood how it came about that she held two men so strangely different in the hollow of her hand, for her charm was of a nature to appeal to both of them, a obsern of the surit as well as of the flosh. And yet the face was haughty, a face that upon occasion might become cruel. "You sent for me and I am here, O King," as less that upon occasion might become cruel. "You sent for me and I am here, O King," he said, in a slow and quiet voice.

"Listen, girl," answered the King, "A while ago the Prince Hafela, my son, named you as her who should be his Queen, whereon you were taken and placed in the House of the Royal Women, to solide the day of your marriage, which should be tenorrow."

"It is true that the Prince has honored me thus, and that you have been pleased to approve his choice," she said, lifting her eyebrows. "What of it, O King?"

"This, girl: the Prince who was pleased to honor you is now pleased to dishonor you. Here, in the presence of the council and army, he prays of me te annul his sealing to you, and to send you back to the house of your guardian. Hokosa the sizard."

Noma started, and her face grew hard.

prays of me to annul his sealing to you, and to send you back to the house of your guardian. Hokosa the sizard."

Noma started, and her face grew hard.

"Is it so?" she said. "Then it would seem that I have lost favor in the eyes of my lord the Prince, or that a fairer woman has found it."

"Of these matters I know nothing," replied the king; "but this I know, that if you seek justice you shall have it. Say but the word, and he to whom you were promised in marriage shall take you in marriage, whether he wills or wills it not."

At this speech the face of Hafela was suddenly lit up as with the fire of hope, while ever that of Hokosa there passed another subtle chanse. The girl glanced at them both, and was slicht for a while. Her breast heaved and her while teeth bit upon her lip. To Owen, who noted all, it was clear that rival passions were struggling in her heart, the passion of power and the passion of love, or of some emotion which he did not understand. Hokosa fixed his calm eyes upon her with a strange intensity of gaze, and while he gazed his form quivered with a suppressed excitement, much as a snake quivers that is about to sirke its prev. To the careless eye there was nothing remarkable about his look and attitude; to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the observer it was evident that both were full of extraordinary purpose. He was talking to the passed to the passed to hear the hand then and held them in less, stain, and to the rest give a double ration of beer. He, now, fall back, men, and make a space for the Bees and the Wasps to fight in.

Some orders were given, and a great ring was formed, leaving an arena clear that may have measured 150 yards in diameter. Then suddenly, from onposite sides, the two regiments known as the Bees and the Wasps respectively, rushed upon each other, uttering their war cripe.

"I put ten head of cattle on the Bees; who wagers on the Wasps?" cried the King.

"I, lord," answered the Prince Hafela, stepping forward.

"You, Prince," said the King with a frown.

"Well, you are right to back them; they are your own regiment. Ah, they are at it."

By this time the scone was that of a hell broken loose upon the earth. The two regiments, numbering some 5,000 men in all, had come together, and the roar of their meeting shields was like the roar of their meeting the character of a proud, she waked to where he shoed shim bedy toward him, then when the was releast the head she walked to where he shed she was less and she walked to where he shed and she walked to where he shed she was less and she walked to where he shed she was less and she walked to where he shed she was less and she walked to where he shed she was less and she w

take you the hand of flekess, and release the girl back to him according to the law proming in the ears of men before the first month of winter to pay him 200 head of cattle as forfeit, to be held by him in trust for the girl."

In a sullen voice, his lips trembling with race, Hafela did as the King commanded; and when their hands unclasped Owen nerecived that in that of the Frince lay a tiny packet.

"Mix me the cup of the first fruits, and quickly," said the King again; "for the sun grows low in the heavens, and ere it sinks I have words to say."

Now, a polished gourd filled with native beer was handed to Nodwengo, the second son of the King, and one by one the great councillors apprenched, and, with appropriate words, let fall into it offerings emblematic of fertility and increase. The first cast in a grain of corn; the second, a blace of grass; the third, a shaving from an ex's born; the fourth, a drop of water; the fifth, a woman's hair; the sixth a particle of earth and so on, until every ingredient was added to it that was necessary to the magic brew. Then Holeson, as chief of the medicine men, blessed the cup according to the ancient form, praying that he whose body was the heavens, whose eyes were lighting, and whose voice was thunder, the spirit whom they worshipped, might increase and militply to them, during the coming year, all those fruits and elements that were present in the cup, and that every virtue which they contained might comfort the body of the King.

His prayer finished, it was the turn of Hafela to piny this part as the eldest born of the King. Kineling over the cup which stood upon the system, as stabled with it toward the four quarters of the horizon; then, muttering some invocation, he thussed it into the bowl, sirring its contents until the iron grew black. Now he threw aside the spear, and, lifting the bowl in both hands, he carried it to his father and offered it to him.

Aithough he had been unable to see him drop the poison into the cup, a glance at Hafela told Owen that it was

The King rose, and taking the bowl, held it on high, saying:
"In this cup, which I drink on behalf of the nation, I piedge you, my people."
It was the signal for the royal salute, for which each regiment had been prepared. As the last word left his lips every one of the 30,000 men present in that great place began to rattle his kerry against the surface of his ox-hide shield. At first the sound produced resombled that of the murmur of the sea; but by slow and just degrees it grew louder and even louder, till the rear of it was like the deepest voice of thunder, an awe-inspiring, terrible sound.

oven londer, till the rear of it was like the deepent voice of thunder, an awe-inspiring, terrible sound.

Seddenly, when its volume was most, four spears were thrown into the air, and at the signal every man ceased to beat upon his shield. In the place itself there was silence, but from the mountains around the echoes still crashed and volleyed. When the last of them had died away the King brought the cup to the level of his lips. Owen saw, and knowing its contents, was almost moved to cry out in warning. Indeed his arm was lifted and his mount was open, when by chance he noted Hokosa watching him, and remembered. To act now would be madness; his time had not yet come. The cup touched the king's lips, and at the sign from overy throat in that countless multade sprang the word "king," and every foot stamped upon the ground, shaking the solid earth. Three the mouarch drank, and thrice the tremendous sainte, the salute of the whole hatlon to its ruler, was receated, each line more lought that the last. Then pouring the cest of the lipter on the ground. Umanka cast adde the cup and in the midst of a silene that seemed deep after the crash of the great salute, he segan to address the multitude:

"Marken, councilors and Cantains, and you my people, heariest. As you know, I have two sons, the caives of the Hack Bull, the Princus of the land my son Hafela, the eldest horn, and my son Nodwengo, his half brother.

At this point the King seemed to grow confused. He hestated, bassed his hands over his cest those works which he had alread year.

To be continued.

Edmond de Goncourt was born on the 28th of May, 1822, at Nancy. There is a street in Nancy which was named in 1804 the Rue des Goncourt. His brother Jules was born in Paris eight years later, on the 17th of December, 1830. Their grandfather was Deputy from the bailiwick of Bassieny-en-Barrols, in the Etats Généraux of 1789, and in the Constitu-ent Assembly. At the age of sixteen their father entered the military service during the Napoleonic epoch. He was left for dead on the battlefield of Pordenove, his right shoulder being broken by a bullet. He was one of the youngest among the commissioned officers, and had a fair prospect of a brilliant career, when "the battle of Waterloo broke his sword and his hopes," as the brothers wrote in their "Journal."

Edmend was about to finish his classical studies in the Goubeau school, where he had Alexandre Dumas for a schoolmate, when his father died. Like his brother, he seems to have been greatly influenced by his mother, whose name, joined to that of her husband, formed the name of Huot de Goncourt, which the two brothers held, and the second portion of which soon blotted out the first.

From his school days Jules de Goncourt gave evidence of a singularly independent mind, which made his professor, one M. Cabeens, utter this prophecy: "You will make noise in the world, sir." But Jules studied regularly, and even had certain successes in the general examinations, notwithstanding the fact that he spent a great deal of the time of his class hours in composing a drama in poetry. "Etienne Marcel," and in making pen illustrations for "Notre Dame" of Victor Hugo, In 1858 Mme. Huot de Goncourt died, joining the hands of the two brothers "with that never-to-be-forgotten expression on the face of a mother crucified by anxiety over the fate of her sons thrown upon the world.

Edmond, who was employed in the Finance Ministry, handed in his resignation. Jules, who had just passed his examination for the degree of bachelor of arts, decided to do nothing. That is to say, taken with the relapse of the passion for drawing, he started out on a travelling tour with his brother. They reached Algiers, and there, realizing the impossibility of rendering their impressions by paint. ing alone, they commenced to write upon men to become later on the "Journal des Gonsourt." On their return to France they took it into their heads to write a vaudeville. They brought it to the theatre of the Palais Royal. There the actor, Sainville, read the piece, rejected it, but finally stole it and changed its name. Edspeaks of this contemptible theft of which they were the victims, which has found many practitioners in the theatrical world, as follows:

"We returned to Paris at the close of 1849 with a crazy itching for writing. The result was a vaudeville in one act, 'Sans Titre,' whose starting point was a slap in the face given in a hall. We brought it, big fools that we were, to Sainville, one of the glories of the Palais Royal, and he received us very cordially. After having run over the manuscript in our presence, he said, 'Take a collaborator, somebody who has theatrical experience, who can give tone to the thing, and in short order make it "Nobody is more conceited than a beginner,

except two beginners. We fancied that we had brought out a mesterpiece, and we didn't like the idea of having another fellow come in and rob us of any portion of our glory. Con-sequently we refused. Sainville, nevertheess, asked us to allow him to keep the manuscript, so that he might read it more carefully, We didn't see anything wrong about that, and we left it with him. Two weeks afterward the actor returned the manuscript, saying that he couldn't possibly do anything with it. Heartbroken, we buried it in an old chest and started in furiously to write history.

talking theatre with Scholl, I expressed opinions quite the reverse of his, and he, becoming impatient, cried out, 'What do you know about it? When a man has never writ-

know about it? When a man has never written any theatrical matter, he can't tell what a play is. Suns to the quiek, I realled that I also was a dramatic author, and I biaced under the eyes of my laterioustor the manuscript of my vaudeville, crying out in an imperative tone. Read, sir. He read, and as he was reading he knitted his brown looked at me, plunged again into the manuscript, knitted his brown again, and exclaimed. Why, that is a fake, a perfect fake? It is the Bourrasu des Cranes. Now, the Bourrasu des Cranes. The state of the state The labort Disk three their counts. Most of wheel they over and this percent will be programmed to the clother the programmed will be indeed to a few the programmed and the count of the c

of the public.

After this adventure the brothers Goncourt wrote very few theatrical pieces. They divided their time between historical studies of the seventeenth century, art criticisms, and romance writing. "In 18—" and "The Actresses" did not schleve much success. The Literary Men" (1800), republished later on under the title of "Charles Demailly," a romance founded upon a piece that was rejected, was their first remarkable success. Then came "Sister Philomens," (1861), a work in which haspital life was the frame. The editor returned their manuscript, on account of the ingubrious character and the borror of the subject. A review afterward bought it, and failed. Nevertheless, they made progress, and they say so with pleasure in their journal. "The literary Mon" cost them 300 frames and "Sister Philomena" brought them in nothing. In "Renée Mauperin" (1862) they gave a description of the roung bourgeoisie, and in "Germinic Lacerteux" (1862) they tell the heartrending story of a servant who was dear to thom—"a ged book that came from their hearts, in which they seemed to bury the dead woman again." In assume has it appeared twelve years before the "Assomment" of Zola, it made them the real creators of the naturalistic school. In 1865 they brought out "Manette Salomon." a work on artists. The same year their play "Heuriste Marichal" falled noisily at the Comedo Française.

Attention has often been called to literary jouing, The brothers Goncourt, inclined.

TWINS IN LITERATURE.

THE WORKS OF THE BROTHERS DE GONCOURT.

TOGETHER THEY Wrote Stistory, Plays, and Novels-They Ground they will be on the suit did, and already his name is giving rie to discussion. Soon the appreciation of bis taient will escape from the good will of his friends and interested parties as well as from the projudice of his adversaries. But posterity will be on his after as well as from the projudice of his adversaries. But posterity will be on his suite as well as on that of his brother. There is something touching and quite novel in the literary life of thesa two brothers, who were for so many years collaborators, even after the death of Jules, and the gond will be dead wown again. It is judgment upon their works.

Edmond de Goncourt was born on the 28th Edmond de Goncourt wa Appears somewhat the problems General always re-fused to present themselves at the French Academy, and broadse one of the conditions

lecations should ever present himself at that establishment.

For a long time M, de Goncourt caressed in his mind that cree lon which his death was bound to realize. He held to the idea so long that the 'young fellows' whom he had chosen are all now of a reintively ripe are, without taking into account the raot that their success or personal fortine has that them entirely beyond the need of any assistance. They are, M. Paul Marqueritte, the two Rosnys, Leon Hennique, leager Marx, L. Descaves, Gust, Ceffroy, and Alphesose lamidet. It is said that the rames of the legatess were frequently changed in the will of the major and the attitude of certain personalities whose house have been dashed often made one of the most curious secties in the council that is always presented on the death of a man with an inheritance. Goncourt often changed in his predictions. In a recent trial an infiserest lawyer read a lefter from M. Bourget, in which the latter spoke of him as his 'dear, great, lealous unster."

But there remains one resource to the disappelated hopes. M. de Goncourt leaves in his academy two places without mention of any tames. It will be for those whom he has named himself to make the choice, and now come those academical visits of which he had such a perfect horror.

The house at Autenii and the collections are to be sold and the price added to the e-tate left by Edmund do Goncourt, in order to form the necessary capital for the foundation of the "Grenier." The only thing that will be taken from it consists of a little annuity to the old servant of the master, Pelasie.

Nevertheless, M. de Goncourt leaves logatees, and among them are M. Lefaivre de Behaine, quite recently Ambassador for France in the Vatican, and M. de Viliedenii, the foundarior of the Edair of whom we have spoken, with whom the brothers Goncourt first became preminent.

"Manette Salomon," a work of artists. The same year their play "Herricite Marrichall" falled noisily at the Comddie Française.

Attention has often been called to literary jealousy. The brothers Goncourt, inclined, like all literary men, to draw everytting around themselves, always insisted that that event was the manifestation of literary lealousy, but it was nothing of the kind. The personality of the authors and the meril of the piece had nething to do with it. Everybody knew that the intervention of the Princess Mathide, the protectress of the brothers Goncourt, was all powerful in forcing the acceptance of "Honorette Marrichal." The manifestation in reality was against a favor and against a detested regime. The piece, moreover, was taken up again in 1881 at the Oddon. Edmond, the only survivor, was then in the height of his glory. The success of the piece was great, and one is almost inclined to ask if at that time the literary snoblishness which surrounded the old playwright did not have some hand in the proportions of the trit mph.

In the course of a trit to Itome the two brothers conceived the idea of "Malame Gervalsais" (1860), the story of a feminine brounds in which the influence of surroundings brought from free though to the most outrageous bigotry. The same year a new piece of theirs, "The Country in Danger," was presented at the Comédie Française and rejected. It was not played until 1889 in the Théâtre Libre, founded by Anteine, formerly an employee of the gas company and an amateur actor, who succeeded, through his obstinate energy, in bringing out a great deal of talent that was choked off by the indifference of the director of one of the first theatres subsidized by the State, the Oddon.

In 1870 death carried off Jules de Goncourt, but without destroying the literary alliance

In 1870 death carried off Jules de Goncourt.

Prominent.
His will contains, we are told, all the chances His will contains, we are told, all the chances of annulment which may be expected in the will of a man who refused to consult a notary, through extreme discretion. Therefore, it is left to the will of the family to carry out or not the last wishes of the two brothers. In a letter full of dignity, brilliancy, and aristocratic style M de Villedouli, at present editing a monar-hist journal, stated that it would certainly not be his fault if the will was not complete and valid. Will the other inheritors be as generous? Let us hope so.

RAYMOND DALY.

one of the first theatros subsidized by the State, the Oddon.

In 1870 death carried off Jules de Goncourt, but without destroying the literary alliance of the two brothers, for it was from notes taken by them in common that the elder wro(e. "La Fille Elisa" (1878), the "Brothers Zemzanno." "La Faustin" (1882), and "Chérie" (1881), Edmond de Goncourt brought out three plays from romances previously written by him and his brother. "Renée Mauperin," in collaboration with M. Henry Céard, and "Germinie Lacorteux." a strange work, in which the plece is cut up into an infinite number of little tableaux, and in reality is merely a romance told by the actors. Last of all, quite recently he brought out "Manette Salomon." "Germinie Lacerteux" was considered rather off color. It had the honor of an interpellation in the Senate, addressed to the Minister of Finance, who permitted it to be played in a theatre subsidized by the State.

A young writer, M. Paul Margueritte, speaking of the stale of the brothers Goncourt, says: "Too clairvoyant, too laboriousive critical, why should not the works of observation of the two brothers point to fatality? The great myth of Prometheus, whose liver was torn by a valture, seems to live in them. All the heroes of these turbulent pages live and die, devoured by a moral cancer. Charles Demailly, a lucid and penetrating literator, tortured by his stupid and perfidious wife, suffers on to the very last fibre of his sensitiveness and sinks down at last into insanity.

"The painter Coriolis, a man of superior shilty, is absorbed little by little by Manette Salomon, the mistress of chance who becomes all-powerful in his home, turns away his friends, gives out her orders, juggles with and annihilates the man who has supported her so long. Mme. Gervalsais, finding herself infatuated by the atmosphere of Rome, surrenders her free thought reason to the invasion of a plety which comes upon her like a fever from the infamy committed by her brother as from the builet that killed him in a duel which si of an man who refused to council a lowell has infused a spirit of good temper will of a man who refused to council a now the form of a man who refused to council a now the form of a man who refused to council a now the form of the family to carry out or not the last wishes of the two brothers. In a letter full of dignity, brilliancy, and aristocratic style M de Villodouli, at present editing certainly not be his full if the will was not complete and vaild. Will the other inheritors be as generous? Let us hope so.

RAYMOND DALY.

AMONG ATHLETIC CHRISTIANS.

Hasketball and Newcomb Promise to Be the Popular Winter Pastimes.

The warm weather of the past week proved to be a great drawback to the young athletes of the Y. M. C. A. of this city and Brooklyn, and several of the gymnasiums were closed and training suspended. With the exception of one or two more meets the season is practically at an end. The physical directors are now making preparations for the fall and winter pastimes. The greatest interest promises to be centred in basketball league on similar plans at the X-tional Baseball League, in which there will be a representative team from every branch.

Another thing to be introduced in the gymnasium is the game of newcomb, which was first played at New Orleans. The game is on the order of basketball, with the order the latter's objectionable features. A line is drawn in the centre of the gymnasium, and about eight feet from it, on either side, is another line. These are called the "base lines." The distance may vary, the six of the room being taken into account. Two sides are then chosen by the captain, the number playing depending upon the available space, Twelve or fifteen on a side is agood number. The players of cach team than take their positions between the base lines and wall so that they face each other. A basketball or football may be used. The reference the interior is the country of the gram of the captain, the number playing depending upon the available space, Twelve or fifteen on a side ous maindy of the organisms of the citie in an atmosphere of luxury and of nervous disease."

Certainly there is nothing strange in seeing romance writers coming to the conclusion that life is wretched at the present time, especially when the struggle for existence is in a period when social good is strangely neglected and is embittered by cynical crudity. Neither is it strange to find them bringing out nervous diseases in a period of overwork and insanity, list a remarkable love of detail, of minute analysis joined to an excessive and almost mainful research, and to a determination to bring out nothing as a general rule but minds too sharpened, or invalids all suffering from a moral cancer, has made the observations of these authors' monographs exceptionally painful, in which one might be tempted to find the pictures of themselves. They did not possess the gift of coming out from themselves. In the creation of types the sense of the whole was wanting in them as well as that of sacrifices and necessary classifications is the creation of a class or of a period or the personification of a class or of a period or the personification of floor, and, if successful, he must immediately throw it back to his opponents. This passing to and fro is kept up until a touch down is made. If the ball is thrown and touches the floor bethe side throwing the ball. One point is also scored on all fouls. The most important rules of game are as follows:

decorative art, in poetry the epopee, and which we find in our modern literature, in Flaubert and in Zola, which, in a word, gives to a work

tors of the passions there was wanting that tenso of generalization which in painting makes

we find in our medern literature, in Flanhert and in Zola, which, in a word, gives to a work a social reach.

It may be remarked en passent that while in the public mind Zola passes for the incontestable chief and the creator of naturalism, when he rather a romaneer modified by his travelling about, and more of a soci than a documentaire, whose personages are accurate only in the tendency which they personify, and not in their individuality. Flaubert is often forgotten, and the name of Gencourt in connection with this school is not even mentioned. The authors of "cernine Lacerteux" and of "Fille Elisa" and "La Faustin," the minute observers of the little bête mainet for which the individual alone exists because he reveals himself to us directly—and they preferred the nervous individual—were astounding searchers and painters in words! It may be said of them that they have given back to painting that which painting has given all this contary to literature by invading its domain through these immense illustrations, these pun-making allegaries which encumber every year our "raions." From this point of view, perhaps, they were, without knowing it themselves, the fathers, or at least the golfathers, of this "decadent" school which holds sway of late years, which disappears after having allowed a few smart voung men, and among them some men of talent, to make their way; and this is perhaps the true mission of every school in art as well as in politics.

The brothers Goncourt will remain the painters of a period of moral insecurity and of painting suffering. The Journal in which for have a first and second team. The Twenty-third-street branch team, with the exception one or two men, will be the same as last year. The team was the strongest in the District Ras-ketball league. In the many games played the

would be wise for them to have headquarters. imposed by Goncourt was that none of his legators should ever present himself at that establishment.

For a long time M. de Goncourt cares ed in his

Rule 1 - The ball may be thrown with one or both

hands, but the person must not throw it while he is use a cross lies kneed the same and throw it while he is the same and the same and the same and the same like 2 - A placer must not had the ball to long. The proper like yer must not had the ball to long. The proper grant of time shall be determined by the referce. Rule 1-A player must not step over the base line. Breaking any of the above rules shall count as a lond, and one point shall be given in each case to the ide not in fault. The length of the game shall be decided upon

by the captains of the teams and the referee before play begins, and the side having the most points at the end of the allotted time shall be the winner. Two halves of twenty-five minutes each, with ten minutes rest, are usually teams will be selected and practice will begin. The different basketball teams of this city will start to practice next month, and it can safely be said that pretty nearly every branch will have a first and second team. The Twentyketball League. In the many games played the Twenty-third street men, won every game, and carried off championship honors in the league

Twenty-third street men won every game, and carried of championship honors in the lengths with twelve victories.

The Harlem branch will be strongly represented this year, and it is even rumored that the Harlem players will cause the champions to do some tail hustling to best them. The team will be made up of new men who, it is claimed, are experts at the game. This team of last season was handleapped because several of the best players were laid up. The Harlem boys were the first of the basicibal teams among the Y M C.A. to defeat the strong Yale team by the score of 8 goals to 3. Physical Director Smith is laving the gymnasium placed in first-class condition, and has issued a call for candidates to represent the branch in the game of newcomb.

Thysical Director Mulier of the Young Men's Institute expects to have a winning baskethall team in the field this season, and is devoting all his time to accomplish his purpose. The team played in good form at the beginning of last season, but a end to be heart at the close. The men were somewhat handleapped on accomplish the me

WOMEN AS CAMPAIGNERS.

MISS ROSWELL'S WORK IN THIS The State Committee to Give the Woman's

of the Tenements and the Factories,

When New York State rolls up a big majorty for William McKinley and sound money next November the members of the Woman's Republican Association of the State of New York are going to feel mighty proud. They are going to say with a smile "We helped to do thin," and without doubt the men will be saying the same thing about them. Already the officers of the State Committee have been so impressed with the plans laid out by the various mxillary clubs in New York city for campalgn work that Chairman Hackett thought is

"And you know what Chairman Hackets thinks he says, and what he says goes," remarked one of the women leaders, enthusins-tically. "So, of course, we are to have headuarters, and fine ones at that."

The women are delighted at such a recognition of their work by the State Committee, and have started to labor in dead earnest. Even the hos wave did not check their enthusiasm and on those days when all of New York was gasping the Republican women worked on. of these women is planned in all of its details by Miss Helen Variok Boswell, under the disrection of the Republican State Committee.

It was just after Miss Boswell had paid or usual daily visit at Republican headquarters on perhaps the most torrid of all the torrid days. Nobody said a word until long after the sound of her footsteps on the tiled corridor had passed out of hearing. Then one of the leaders of all the other leaders threw off his crash cost with a great show of energy and said:
"Well, I'm beat out. Did you ever see

such a woman? No matter how hot the weather is, it seems to act as an oil on her temper, keeping it in good working order and in turn keeping ours in fine trim. Now every man of you was as ugly as two sticks when she came in to lay some of her newly developed plans before us, and now you all look as amiable and smiling as if the mer-cury had taken a tumble down in the tube."

"Right you are," answered another official, as he settled down to attend to some important matters, "and the most encourage ing fact about this matter to me is that Miss Boswell has infused a spirit of good temper into the thousand or more members of the

rise, and can turn many votes to help save national honor when they are made to under-stand that the silver heresy is a menace to all their needs. Mrs. Burns is President of the West Side Auxiliary, and she and hundreds of tenements within the next six weeks.

West Side Auxiliary, and she and here-workers expect to visit hundreds and hundreds of tenements within the next six weeks.

"Mrs. Florence Kirkwood, President of the Cheisea Auxiliary, is the moving spirit in the work to be carried on in the factory districts. Noonday meetings will be held in the factories, where the speakers will instruct the operatives on both the money and tariff issues. Mrs. Kirkwood is a woman well informed along both these lines, and knows how to point out to working people what they must do to protect their own interests.

"Our literary bureau will be looked after by Mrs. Cornelia S. Robinson, and she will also edit the literature sent out by the committee. Special effort will be made to send out just such short, clear statements as will be intelligible and/convincing to any one, even the most will head the list of speakers. Mrs. Jane Pierce will head the list of speakers. Mrs. Jane Pierce will head the list of speakers. Mrs. Jane Pierce will head the list of speakers. Mrs. Jane pierce with me in the general management.

As soon as the speaking campaign begins, Miss Boswell will not only work hard ail day, but lend her melodious Southern voice to the gold cause every evening. The State Republican Committee desires that she reserve herself for the larger meetings to be lied not only in this city, but throughout the State. Miss Boswell declares that she reserve herself for the larger meetings to be lied not only in this city, but throughout the State. Miss Boswell declares that she seems to stand slone in this opinion, for while, the local campaign work, but she seems to stand slone in this opinion, for while, the local campaign was being carried on last fall she was in great demand. Frequently speaking three times in one evening.

Plays Well, Makes Money, and Does Busts ness on the Muscuilne Plan.